

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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TAKING BIRD CENSUSES.

A new Government publication, Department Circular 261, The Purpose of Bird Censuses and How to Take Them, by May Thacher Cooke; assistant in biological investigations, has been issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, and is available on application to the Biological Survey or the Division of Publications, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

This publication is designed for persons now cooperating in taking bird censuses, also for ornithologists and others desiring information on the subject. In addition to an explanation as to the need of data regarding the numerical distribution of the various species of birds in different sections of the country, the circular gives instructions on how to make local counts, the time to begin, and the types of tracts from which censuses are desired. These include farmland, woodland, irrigation projects, marshland, and other special areas.

Directions are given for rendering a report of each census when taken. Blanks for these records are furnished by the Bureau of Biological Survey.